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FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
TO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1662

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 000314

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/SCE, EUR/WE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 7/22/2018

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [MT](#)

SUBJECT: MALTA'S FM: KOSOVO RECOGNITION ON AUGUST 15

REF: VALLETTA 294

Classified By: A/DCM MCummings for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

(C) Malta's Foreign Minister Tonio Borg informed Ambassador Bordonaro that Malta would officially recognize Kosovo on August 15. FM Borg indicated Malta was set to recognize Kosovo on July 31, but on July 23, in a phone call to convey Malta's decision on recognition, the Serbian FM asked FM Borg to delay the announcement until August 15. The Serbian FM expressed concern to FM Borg that he did not want Malta's recognition of Kosovo to be viewed as linked to the recent apprehension of Radovan Karadzic. Also, the Serbian FM relayed their intent to return all of the ambassadors to posts that they had recalled from countries who recognized Kosovo.
BORDONARO